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BEFORE THE

## CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of the Petitions of the City of Simi Valley, City of Thousand Oaks, and Camarillo Sanitary District for Review of Action and Failure to Act by Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. SWRCB/OCC File A-1577 (Camarillo) SWRCB/OCC File A-1578 (Thousand Oaks) SWRCB/OCC File A-1579 (Simi Valley) [Related Petition: SWRCB/OCC File A-1474]

STIPULATION FOR FURTHER ORDER ISSUING STAY

## **RECITALS**

- 1. On October 17, 2002, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted Order No. WQO 2002-0017. The Order approved the "Stipulation for Order Issuing Stay with Conditions" entered into by the Cities of Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks, Camarillo Sanitary District, Camrosa Water District and Ventura County Water Works District No. 1 and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), staying chloride effluent limitations contained in WDRs issued to the five publicly owned treatment works. The parties stipulated to a modification of Order No. WQO 2002-0017 on March 31, 2003.
- 2. On July 7, 2003, the Cities of Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks, and the Camarillo Sanitary District (collectively "Petitioners"), pursuant to Water Code section 13320, filed petitions for review with the SWRCB of, among other things, the new effluent limitations for chloride contained in orders adopted by the Regional Board on June 5, 2003. Petitioners further requested that the SWRCB issue a stay of such limitations.
- 3. The new effluent limitations for chloride in the permits and accompanying time schedule orders pertaining to chloride were proposed and adopted after receipt of an objection from the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region IX ("U.S. EPA") to the draft

orders that were consistent with the stay issued in WQO 2002-017. U.S. EPA contended that the final orders must include effluent limitations for chloride consistent with wasteload allocations (WLA) contained in a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for chloride promulgated by U.S. EPA on March 2, 2002. The TMDL was based upon a water quality objective for chloride of 150 mg/l.

- 4. Petitioners contend, among other things, that the Regional Board improperly included the numeric effluent limitations for chloride in the orders. The bases of Petitioners' objections are articulated in their respective petitions. The Petitioners ask that the SWRCB stay the chloride effluent limitations consistent with Order WQO 2002-0017.
- 5. Petitioners allege they will incur substantial harm if the effluent limitations for chloride are not stayed. Petitioners contend that, absent a stay, they must immediately initiate planning and construction of expensive reverse osmosis facilities in order to comply with the effluent limitations.
  - 6. The parties agree that the public will not incur substantial harm if a stay is granted.
- 7. The Regional Board and the Petitioners agree upon the need to further consider water quality standards for chloride and alternate approaches to chloride regulation in the Calleguas Creek watershed. In this regard, Petitioners have submitted to the Regional Board a work plan for salts in the Calleguas Creek watershed to support determinations of beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and development of TMDLs as necessary. The Executive Officer of the Regional Board approved such work plan by letter of July 3, 2003, and activities in furtherance of the work plan are in progress.
- 8. The Regional Board and the Petitioners, considering the history of chloride regulation in the Calleguas Creek watershed, the existing stay in effect pursuant to WQO 2002-0017, the incorporation of chloride effluent limitations into the various Regional Board orders that are the subject of the petitions, and the intent to constructively address chloride regulation in the Calleguas Creek watershed and to amicably resolve issues raised in the petitions, have agreed to stipulate to a stay order by the SWRCB as provided below.

- 1. The parties stipulate that the entry of a stay on the terms and conditions in Paragraph 2 below is appropriate and in the public interest. This stipulation shall not, however, constitute or be construed as an admission on any issue of law or fact relevant to the final disposition of the petitions.
  - 2. The parties stipulate to the entry of an Order by the SWRCB providing as follows:
- "(a) effective July 25, 2003, the following final effluent limitations are stayed consistent with WQO 2002-0017, as modified by the March 31, 2003 stipulation of the parties:
  - "(i) Final effluent limitations for chloride contained in Section I, Discharge Requirements A, "Effluent Limitations" 2.a. of Order No. R4-2003-0081 (NPDES No. CA0055221) of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board;
  - "(ii) Final effluent limitations for chloride contained in Section I, Discharge Requirements A, "Effluent Limitations" 2.a. of Order No. R4-2003-0079 (NPDES No. CA0053597) of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board;
  - "(iii) Final effluent limitations for chloride contained in Section I, Discharge
    Requirements A, "Effluent Limitations" 2.a. of Order No. R4-2003-0083 (NPDES
    No. CA0056294) of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board;" and
- "(b) effective June 5, 2003, the provisions of Time Schedule Order Nos. R4-2003-0082, No. R4-2003-0080, and No. R4-2003-0084 pertaining to compliance with chloride effluent limitations are stayed."
- "(c) The petitions filed on July 7, 2003, denominated SWRCB/OCC Files A-1577, A-1578, and A-1579, will be held in abeyance pursuant to Section 2050.5(d) of Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations for a period of three years from the date of action by the SWRCB approving the Stipulation for Further Order Issuing Stay, subject to the right of Petitioners to reactivate the petitions in whole or in part, or subject to any stipulated extension of the abeyance period. The parties, and the parties to the Petition denominated OCC File A-1474, further stipulate that the Petition under OCC File A-1474 shall remain in abeyance for a period of three years from the date of action by the SWRCB approving